

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/871,920

Examiner

William L. Bashore

Applicant(s)

EDD ET AL.

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to BPAI decision mailed 6/28/2007.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are claims 20-22, 25, 28-31 and new claims 60-84, reorganized as per examiner's amendment and Issue Classification Sheet.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6. ☒ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date attached herewith.
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☐ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____.

William L. Bashore
WILLIAM BASHORE
PRIMARY EXAMINER
September 3, 2007

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

a. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

b. Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Scott Stinebruner on 8/23/2007.

c. The application has been amended as follows:

Please cancel claims 23, 28, 32-50 and 59.

Please replace claims 1-31 with the following:

1. (Currently Amended) A method of managing content in a content-controlled database, the method comprising:

- (a) linking a content management record to a content item to be incorporated into a content-controlled database, the content management record storing content management information associated with the content item;
- (b) processing the content item through a plurality of stages of a content management process, including updating the content management information stored in the content management record during each stage of the content management process, wherein the plurality of stages includes at least one review stage during which approval of the content item is obtained; and

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(c) promoting the content item as a result of the content management process such that the content item is user accessible from the content-controlled database, including updating the content management information stored in the content management record to indicate that the content item has been promoted; and

(d) initiating an update review process after the content item has been promoted, wherein initiating the update review process includes initiating demotion of the content item a time period after the update review process has been initiated if the update review process has not yet been completed.

2. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the content management record comprises a groupware document.

3. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein linking the content management record to the content item includes storing an identifier for the content item in the content management record.

4. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein linking the content management record to the content item includes storing an identifier for the content management record in the content item.

5. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising storing content management information from the content management document in the content item.

6. (Original) The method of claim 5, wherein storing content management information in the content item comprises generating meta data and adding the meta data to the content item.

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7. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the content management record is further linked to a second content item in the content-controlled database.

8. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the content-controlled database comprises a web site accessible via the Internet.

9. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein updating the content management information stored in the content management record during each stage of the content management process includes updating a status in the content management record that is associated with a current stage of the content management process.

10. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the plurality of stages includes a draft stage during which an author inputs content management information into the content management record.

11. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the plurality of stages includes a topic review stage during which at least one topic owner associated with a topic reviews the content item based upon such topic.

12. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the plurality of stages includes a legal review stage during which at least one legal entity reviews the content item based upon legal requirements.

13. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the plurality of stages includes a country review stage during which at least one country-related entity reviews the content item based upon country-specific requirements.

14. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the plurality of stages includes an approval stage during which a content manager having responsibility for all of the content in the content-controlled database reviews the content item.

15. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the plurality of stages includes a develop stage during which the content item is formatted for inclusion in the content-controlled database.

16. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein processing the content item through the content management process includes returning the content item to an earlier stage in the content management process in response to non-approval of the content item during the review stage.

17. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the content management process is performed by a group of entities, wherein selected entities are responsible for various stages of the content management process, and wherein processing the content item through the content management process includes, at each stage in the content management process, notifying the entity responsible for such stage.

18. (Original) The method of claim 17, wherein notifying each entity comprises sending such entity an electronic message.

19. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein promoting the content item includes copying the content item to a web server.

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20. (Original) The method of claim 19, wherein copying the content item to the web server includes copying the content item to a staging server, the method further comprising copying the content item from the staging server to a production server automatically during automatic synchronization of the staging and production servers.

21. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising, after approval of the content item, deferring promotion of the content item until a predetermined date identified in the content management record.

22. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 21, wherein deferring promotion of the content item until the predetermined date identified in the content management record includes:

- (a) periodically comparing a current date against the predetermined date identified in the content management record after approval of the content item is obtained; and
- (b) promoting the content item when the current date matches the predetermined date identified in the content management record.

24. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 ~~23~~, wherein initiating the update review process includes notifying an author associated with the content item.

25. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 ~~23~~, further comprising, after promotion of the content item, periodically comparing a current date with an update review date identified in the content management record, wherein initiating the update review process is performed in response to the current date matching the update review date identified in the content management record.

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26. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 ~~23~~, wherein initiating the update review process includes reminding the author a time period after the update review process has been initiated if the update review process has not yet been completed.

27. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 ~~23~~, wherein initiating the update review process includes reminding a reviewer a time period after the update review process has been initiated if the update review process has not yet been completed.

29. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the content item is a parent content item, the method further comprising automatically initiating a review of a child content item linked to the parent content item in response to modification of the parent content item.

30. (Original) The method of claim 29, wherein the parent content is associated with at least one of a first country, a first region, and a first language, and wherein the child content item is associated with at least one of a second country, a second region, and a second language.

31. (Original) The method of claim 29, wherein the content management document is a parent content management document, the method further comprising building a child content management document linked to the child content item using at least a portion of the content management information in the parent content management document.

Please add the following new claims:

60. (New) A method of managing content in a content-controlled database, the method comprising:

- (a) linking a content management record to a content item to be incorporated into a content-controlled database, the content management record storing content management information associated with the content item;
- (b) processing the content item through a plurality of stages of a content management process, including updating the content management information stored in the content management record during each stage of the content management process, wherein the plurality of stages includes at least one review stage during which approval of the content item is obtained; and
- (c) promoting the content item as a result of the content management process such that the content item is user accessible from the content-controlled database, including updating the content management information stored in the content management record to indicate that the content item has been promoted;

wherein promoting the content item includes copying the content item to a web server, and wherein copying the content item to the web server includes copying the content item to a staging server, the method further comprising copying the content item from the staging server to a production server automatically during automatic synchronization of the staging and production servers.

61. (New) The method of claim 60, wherein the plurality of stages includes a draft stage during which an author inputs content management information into the content management record.

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62. (New) The method of claim 60, wherein the plurality of stages includes a topic review stage during which at least one topic owner associated with a topic reviews the content item based upon such topic.

63. (New) The method of claim 60, wherein the plurality of stages includes a legal review stage during which at least one legal entity reviews the content item based upon legal requirements.

64. (New) The method of claim 60, wherein the plurality of stages includes a country review stage during which at least one country-related entity reviews the content item based upon country-specific requirements.

65. (New) The method of claim 60, wherein the plurality of stages includes an approval stage during which a content manager having responsibility for all of the content in the content-controlled database reviews the content item.

66. (New) The method of claim 60, wherein the plurality of stages includes a develop stage during which the content item is formatted for inclusion in the content-controlled database.

67. (New) A method of managing content in a content-controlled database, the method comprising:

(a) linking a content management record to a content item to be incorporated into a content-controlled database, the content management record storing content management information associated with the content item;

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(b) processing the content item through a plurality of stages of a content management process, including updating the content management information stored in the content management record during each stage of the content management process, wherein the plurality of stages includes at least one review stage during which approval of the content item is obtained;

(c) promoting the content item as a result of the content management process such that the content item is user accessible from the content-controlled database, including updating the content management information stored in the content management record to indicate that the content item has been promoted; and

(d) after approval of the content item, deferring promotion of the content item until a predetermined date identified in the content management record.

68. (New) The method of claim 67, wherein deferring promotion of the content item until the predetermined date identified in the content management record includes:

(a) periodically comparing a current date against the predetermined date identified in the content management record after approval of the content item is obtained; and

(b) promoting the content item when the current date matches the predetermined date identified in the content management record.

69. (New) A method of managing content in a content-controlled database, the method comprising:

(a) linking a content management record to a content item to be incorporated into a content-controlled database, the content management record storing content management information associated with the content item;

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(b) processing the content item through a plurality of stages of a content management process, including updating the content management information stored in the content management record during each stage of the content management process, wherein the plurality of stages includes at least one review stage during which approval of the content item is obtained;

(c) promoting the content item as a result of the content management process such that the content item is user accessible from the content-controlled database, including updating the content management information stored in the content management record to indicate that the content item has been promoted;

(d) initiating an update review process after the content item has been promoted; and

(e) after promotion of the content item, periodically comparing a current date with an update review date identified in the content management record, wherein initiating the update review process is performed in response to the current date matching the update review date identified in the content management record.

70. (New) The method of claim 69, wherein the plurality of stages includes a draft stage during which an author inputs content management information into the content management record.

71. (New) The method of claim 69, wherein the plurality of stages includes a topic review stage during which at least one topic owner associated with a topic reviews the content item based upon such topic.

72. (New) The method of claim 69, wherein the plurality of stages includes a legal review stage during which at least one legal entity reviews the content item based upon legal requirements.

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73. (New) The method of claim 69, wherein the plurality of stages includes a country review stage during which at least one country-related entity reviews the content item based upon country-specific requirements.

74. (New) The method of claim 69, wherein the plurality of stages includes an approval stage during which a content manager having responsibility for all of the content in the content-controlled database reviews the content item.

75. (New) The method of claim 69, wherein the plurality of stages includes a develop stage during which the content item is formatted for inclusion in the content-controlled database.

76. (New) A method of managing content in a content-controlled database, the method comprising:

- (a) linking a content management record to a content item to be incorporated into a content-controlled database, the content management record storing content management information associated with the content item;
- (b) processing the content item through a plurality of stages of a content management process, including updating the content management information stored in the content management record during each stage of the content management process, wherein the plurality of stages includes at least one review stage during which approval of the content item is obtained; and
- (c) promoting the content item as a result of the content management process such that the content item is user accessible from the content-controlled database, including updating the content management information stored in the content management record to indicate that the content item has been promoted;

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wherein the content item is a parent content item, the method further comprising automatically initiating a review of a child content item linked to the parent content item in response to modification of the parent content item.

77. (New) The method of claim 76, wherein the parent content is associated with at least one of a first country, a first region, and a first language, and wherein the child content item is associated with at least one of a second country, a second region, and a second language.

78. (New) The method of claim 76, wherein the content management document is a parent content management document, the method further comprising building a child content management document linked to the child content item using at least a portion of the content management information in the parent content management document.

79. (New) The method of claim 76, wherein the plurality of stages includes a draft stage during which an author inputs content management information into the content management record.

80. (New) The method of claim 76, wherein the plurality of stages includes a topic review stage during which at least one topic owner associated with a topic reviews the content item based upon such topic.

81. (New) The method of claim 76, wherein the plurality of stages includes a legal review stage during which at least one legal entity reviews the content item based upon legal requirements.

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82. (New) The method of claim 76, wherein the plurality of stages includes a country review stage during which at least one country-related entity reviews the content item based upon country-specific requirements.

83. (New) The method of claim 76, wherein the plurality of stages includes an approval stage during which a content manager having responsibility for all of the content in the content-controlled database reviews the content item.

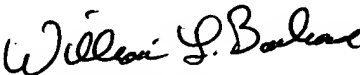
84. (New) The method of claim 76, wherein the plurality of stages includes a develop stage during which the content item is formatted for inclusion in the content-controlled database.

d. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to William L. Bashore whose telephone number is (571) 272-4088. The examiner can normally be reached on 9:00 am - 5:30 pm EST.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Doug Hutton can be reached on (571) 272-4137. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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e. Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.


WILLIAM BASHORE
PRIMARY EXAMINER

September 3, 2007